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which was so successful that he was emboldened to take up the task which has borne such good fruit in the work now before us. "The earlier book," to quote from the author's preface, "was a presentation of the law of construction, while this treats of the law attending those operations which precede construction."

When we reflect for a moment on the vast public enterprises which are daily set on foot around us, we can easily see that a knowledge of the law, in some of its branches, at least, is almost indispensable to an engineer of any prominence. Take, for example, an enterprise which has for its object the conveyance of a suitable water supply to a great city from a distance. How minute must be the consulting engineer's knowledge of the myriad branches of the law of property! He must know something about deeds and conveyances and of the determination of boundaries, not only by surveying, but by the law courts after the surveyor has long finished his task; he must keep in mind the rights of riparian owners,—in fact, all the law in regard to surface and subterranean streams; he must know something of rights of way and other easements and incorporeal rights, to say naught of franchises. To make a complete list of all such requirements would be to make a list of the chapter and section headings of Mr. Wait's work. It may be urged that all this could be well enough left to the lawyer; not to-day, however, for a man who is now managing such an undertaking must be able to decide legal questions as well as to solve engineering problems. If a lawyer had always to be consulted, the enterprise would lag. Moreover, he would be a lawyer merely and would at times be unable to grasp what the engineer could see at a glance. For such an engineer, indeed, for all engineers, Mr. Wait's work is invaluable; nor is it by any means amiss in a lawyer's office.

The citations are numerous and accurate, though dates might sometimes well be inserted; the book also represents all the latest improvements in typography.

J. M. D.

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OUTLINE STUDY OF LAW. By J. F. RUSSELL, D. C. L., LL. D., Professor of Law in New York University. Third edition. Baker, Voorhis & Co., New York, 1900.

Any one who expects to find in this book a labored and dreary exposition of salient points of jurisprudence will be pleasantly disappointed. Instead he will find, woven into the warp of a more or less scientific arrangement of topics, a pleasing woof of informal lectures, or *chats*, which will interest and stimulate him. Upon a background of eminent common sense he will perceive the large figures of a deep learning, shot here and there with brilliant threads of wit and humor. We can imagine no better book to be put into the hands of one contemplating the study of law or even of one who has made some progression in it. To laymen of intelligence it will prove pleasant and profitable reading because of the large culture it displays and the happy way of putting legal thought. To the

lawyer it will be of interest and of charm by reason of its clear and sane way of stating things and its piquant phrases and expressions. It is not our purpose to discuss this meritorious book at length—that has already been done for previous editions by THE AMERICAN LAW REGISTER. We simply wish to call attention to its excellence. It is well worth a place in any library, and must be read with interest and instruction by every serious-minded person. We even venture to think that persons who never read anything "heavier" than the current novel will find it not altogether tiresome.

*E. B. S., Jr.*